

is with great enthusiasm that I offer the Pleasant Valley Historical Society my sincere congratulations in reaching this significant milestone, and I am pleased to join them in celebrating the 50th anniversary of their establishment.

TURKEY

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my grave concern for Turkey's actions, or should I say lack thereof, vis-a-vis regional security in the Middle East.

As ISIS sweeps across Iraq and Syria, we know many foreign fighters have joined their ranks. But what I find incredibly disturbing is that Turkey, a NATO ally, is one of the most active recruitment sources for ISIS. According to reports, as many as 1,000 Turks have joined the ranks of ISIS.

Turkey must do more to stop its citizens from joining ISIS, and a good starting point would be to shut down the recruitment operation that has thus far been ignored.

Also problematic are the dozens of oil fields and refineries that ISIS now controls across Iraq and Syria. Control of this oil has given ISIS a steady flow of funds placed around \$1–\$2 million per day on the black market. Turkey again needs to step up and do more to curb the flow of this oil through its territory and put a stop to ISIS's smuggling network.

I would also like to express my concern for the erosion of civil liberties and rule of law in Turkey. Intimidation of the press, private businesses, and other civil society actors has been reported. This, along with abuses of religious freedom and surface-level reforms, has made clear that Turkey's democracy is not moving in the right direction.

It's time for the Turkish government to take a stand. It's time to lift restrictions on the media and religion, among other key sectors of society. And it's time to put a stop to ISIS's financial and personnel networks that flow through Turkey.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MEDICARE RIGHTS CENTER FOR 25 YEARS OF QUALITY SERVICE

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, 25 years ago, the Medicare Rights Center was created. Since then, seniors, people with disabilities, their friends and family members, and policymakers have benefitted from the Center's expertise.

Since its founding in 1989, the Medicare Rights Center has provided critical advice to individuals who want to find out about Medicare's benefits, learn about enrollment and eligibility, and get help in resolving any problems that they may face. My constituents—and constituents around the country—have called the Medicare Rights Center's hotline and received help—whether from the Center's excellent

staff or from one of its many well-trained volunteer counselors.

The Medicare Rights Centers' newsletters—"Dear Marci," "Medicare Watch," and "Inside Medicare Rights"—are invaluable. "Dear Marci" is a great tool for individuals who want clear and user-friendly information about how they can get the most from their Medicare benefits, avoid problems, get help and voice their views. Other publications and special reports provide those of us in Congress with critical information about the specifics of the law and its implementation. Because the Medicare Rights Center sees the actual, on-the-ground impacts of Medicare policies, they help us determine the actual effects of current policies and identify specific improvements that can be made.

Medicare Rights Center president Joe Baker and federal policy adviser Stacy Sanders are frequently found on Capitol Hill, testifying and responding to information requests from Congressional offices. The Seniors Task Force, which I co-chair, has been privileged to have Medicare Rights Center representatives join us to brief members and staff about Medicare trends, policies and impacts.

I want to congratulate and thank Diane Archer, the founder of the Medicare Rights Center, and all the past and current staff, volunteers and board members for the work that you have done to provide quality, affordable care for seniors, people with disabilities and all Americans.

Congratulations on your first 25 years of service to America, and I wish you many more productive years in the future.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND AND THE WILDERNESS ACT BEING SIGNED INTO LAW

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, September marks the 50th anniversary of both the creation of the Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Wilderness Act being signed into law. I rise in celebration of these two milestones, as they have resulted in the preservation of our nation's most treasured resources.

For 50 years, LWCF has remained the nation's premier conservation and recreation support program. While authorized by Congress, the program is not funded by taxpayer dollars, making it a responsible, practical method to protect our nation's natural landscape and beauty.

The parks, trails, forests, wildlife refuges, battlefields, historic sites, and working lands sustained by LWCF funding support an outdoor recreation and tourism sector that contributes a total of \$1.06 trillion annually to the American economy. This program supports 9.4 million jobs that are vital to our nation's recovery.

Additionally, since President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Wilderness Act into law, Congress has added over 100 million acres to the unique land preservation system. This landmark conservation bill created a way for Americans to protect their cherished wild lands for future generations.

Polling has found that a strong majority of the American people believe that Congress should continue to honor its commitment to both the Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Wilderness Act. I am proud to stand with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to preserve and protect these programs.

OBSERVER STATUS FOR TAIWAN AT THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, greater, more meaningful participation for Taiwan in international organizations is based on the need for the international community to marshal all of its expertise in meeting today's global challenges. For example, in a world trying to contain what is a grave Ebola epidemic, it would make no sense for a nation with Taiwan's resources and expertise to be completely shut out of the deliberations of the World Health Organization. It took the SARS crisis for Taiwan to achieve observer status, but its participation should be maximized as much as possible, given that global health crises may grow more frequent with increased globalization.

Additionally, while I welcome the invitation that was extended to Taiwan by the leadership of the International Civil Aviation Organization to attend last September's assembly, Taiwan should at the very least have an ongoing seat at the table. The number of air travelers has grown, the threat of terrorism has not dissipated, and yet Taiwan is unable to receive the real-time safety information made available to all ICAO members.

These are just two examples of how the world does not benefit from Taiwan's isolation from the technical and expert deliberations of international organizations. There are others. Working to assist Taiwan to gain entry as an observer into the ICAO, just as we did in the case of the World Health Assembly and as we must do on other fronts, is the right thing to do for Taiwan, for the United States, and for the world. I urge my colleagues to redouble our efforts on this front.

HONORING NANCY ANN MCCALLISTER

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of New Mexico resident Nancy Ann McCallister, who passed away on August 16, 2014.

Nancy was a lifelong resident of New Mexico, with family ties to some of New Mexico's oldest families. She was a descendant of Don Juan Vigil y Montes de Santa Anna, and Michel des Marais, who would later become one of the founders of the city of Las Vegas in 1835. To this day Nancy's family continues to live in New Mexico, preserving the rich cultural heritage of their ancestors.